

Belmont Vision 21 Implementation Committee

Minutes, July 24, 2003

(Minutes accepted September 4, 2003)

Present: Jenny Fallon, Joe Greene, Victoria Haase, Tim Higgins, Bill Hofmann, Sara Oaklander, Jennifer Page, Paul Solomon, Barry Winston

Absent: Matt Hausmann, Meg O'Brien

Also present: Delores Keefe

Jennifer Page opened the meeting at 7:00 PM and welcomed our newest member, Victoria Haase. We all introduced ourselves.

1. Minutes We approved the minutes of 6/5/03, amended to include Joe Greene being present, approved the minutes of 7/10/03 meeting; and accepted the notes of the 6/26/03 meeting.

2. Newcomers' booklet The Newcomers Booklet is to be revised and ready for reprinting by September. The new phone numbers, due to re-location of departments, for Town Hall offices will be collected by Delores and given to Barry. We will attempt to get the book on the Town's web page. Barry will get the booklet to Tim, who will help facilitate this electronic task. Tim will raise with Joyce whether we can have a direct link from the front web page to the newcomer's booklet. (To give credit: The suggestion to put the booklet on the web came out of a meeting of PIC.)

3. Report: Permitting Processes Tim Higgins went over his report "Review of Permitting Procedures" and we all asked questions and gave some suggestions. Tim did a terrific job in putting the facts together in concise and easy to read format. He has made several recommendations, which were discussed. The report has been given to the Selectman, Zoning Board of Appeals, and the Planning Board. We all agreed the next step was to allow them to digest the material and have the Selectman convene a meeting of all three groups.

4. Report: Newcomers Welcoming Group Joe Greene reported that this planning group has adopted a new name, the Belmont Neighbors Network. The meetings of the group have been very sparsely attended. The group will hold a meeting in the Library on 8/26/03 with invitations left in several places to attempt to reach more people. There was question raised as to whether there was another "newcomers" group already active in town, and Victoria offered to investigate further.

5. Report: Business and Economic Development Planning Group (BEDPG) Sara Oaklander reported that the group is developing a survey which they expect to give to 500 households in town and also they hope to make it available on the web. Sara has e-mailed it to us all and asks that we work through the survey in order to give her group

feedback about it. She hopes we will give her the feedback by Monday, July 28. BEDPG is also trying to make the survey available on the web.

6. Fire Station Project: Jennifer reported that Roger Colton has drafted an excellent proposal. It needs a bit of tweaking and more detail on budget, but it's very close to being submitted.

7. Report: Environment Due to time constraints, we deferred discussion about next steps on the environmental question until our first meeting in September. In the interim, Jenny and Jennifer will review where we are, whether there are more individuals or groups whose input we should seek before we go on to the next step. Jenny was complimented on the terrific job she did assembling the notes from all the meetings.

8. Schedule of meetings: Our next meeting is August 7, in the Flett Room of the Library at 7:00 p.m. Jennifer has cancelled the meeting of August 21, so the following meeting will be in early September. The group reviewed a proposed schedule of meetings for the next year – through June, '04 -- and approved it, understanding that we may make revisions as necessary.

9. Adjournment: We adjourned at 9:17 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

William Hofmann III,
Secretary Pro Tem